



The Mar Thoma Church Diocese of North America & Europe Christian Education Forum

Lenten Meditations

RENEWAL – RESURRECTED LIFE STYLE

Read Romans 6:1-11

Apostle Paul is building a case for the necessity of salvation. We have been told that we are all sinners. There is only one means of salvation: faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

By placing our faith in Jesus for salvation, we are given the gift of eternal life in Him.

In this section of Paul gives a detailed instruction on how to live the new life in Christ.

“For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his”

Romans 6: 5

Accept the reality of Passing

Paul uses death as an analogy of the Christian life. When death touches the physical body,

there are certain changes that take place immediately. As soon as a person dies, they lose

all desires for the things they used to enjoy. If a man were an alcoholic or a drug addict, as soon as he dies, he is no longer plagued by the urge to use it. Death brings with it certain limitations for the person affected by it.

The same is true for the Christian! When we placed our faith in the Lord Jesus for salvation, we died to sin. Now, I know that the old nature still yearns for sinful expression. It still wants everything it ever did. The old nature will not change until it dies at the end of these physical lives. But, when we were saved, we are made a new creature in Jesus Christ! There is a new man living in these physical bodies and he is dead to sin!

Accept the reality of Position

Verse 3 tells us that when we received Jesus, we were baptized into Him, and as a result, we were baptized into His death. Paul is not referring to water baptism here, but to the Baptism of the Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:13) When a man descends into the water it is like being buried. When he emerged from the water it is like rising from the grave. The man died to one kind of life and rose to another, he died to the old life of sin and rose to the new life of grace. The man who enters upon the Christian way is committed to a different kind of life. He has died to one kind of life and had been born to another. What Paul is telling us is that when we got saved, we were placed into the body of Christ. We are in Him. (Col. 3:3; Eph. 2:6) Placed there by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer.

Almighty Lord, help us not to conform to the standards of this world but to lead a transformed life, which is acceptable and well pleasing to you. Amen.

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